I A F Z-2283.

File No. 271/47-AN

19 .

Govt of India

HOME DEPTT.

(Andaman Sect)

Pros. Nos
Serial

Subject.

A + N. Islands — Local Born Association —

Representation from.

Previous References.

Latter References.

64/8/49-Ans

N. S. B. P.—G 15 3-4-45—5,00,000

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT.
Andamans.

(2)

Subject:- Local born Association - Representation from.

Diary No.2764/47-AN.

We had better get each point examined before the Chief Commissioner's report is received.

Sd. H.J.Stooks,
17-7-47.

The following remarks are offered on the points raised by the Association:-

Item (1). Compulsory primary education and opening of separate girls school - Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Proceedings.

It was pointed out to the representative of the Association that Education in the Andamans is the concern of the Education Department. The representatives were advised to meet the Chief Commissioner with their proposals and to request him to forward the same to the Education Department. It is presumed that the Chief Commissioner will refer this portion of their demand to that Department direct with his comments. We may, however, forward an extract to the Education Department for information. Draft U/o Memo put up

Item (2). Complete prohibition of liquor, toddy, wine, etc. Paragraph 6 of the Proceedings.

The Secretary had informed the deputationists that this is also a matter which they should discuss with the Chief Commissioner. We may await the Chief Commissioner's comments on this subject, but in the meantime forward relevent extracts to C.B.R. and obtain their views in the matter. It may, however, be pointed out that some of the Provincial Governments have already taken steps in the matter. Draft Memo put up.

Item (3). Grant of compensation for loss of property and forcible exchange of currency. Paragraph 8 and 9 of the Proceedings.

As regards forcible exchange of currency, the policy of not recognising Japanese occupation currency has already been decided. This policy has been adopted for all countries over-run by the enemy and it is not possible to exchange or make an exception of Andamans and Nicobar Islands. This fact has already been explained to the Association and we may adhere to our

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

2)

decision. As regards compensation for loss of personal property in the Islands, the question is still under consideration.

Item (4). Payment of a years pay to Local Born Coolies, Chaudhries and Chaukidars. Paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Proceedings.

The position stated by the Association is correct. We may, however, await the Chief Commissioner's recommendation in the matter.

Item (5). Increase in the rate of War Injuries pension. Paragraph 14 of the Proceedings.

Some concession has been made recently to these labourers, but the Chief Commissioner has asked for grant of pension at increased rates.to them. Our file on the subject has been referred to the Labour Department, return of which is awaited.

7.111/47-AN.
Labour Deptt.
1947

Item (6). Recruitment of the Members of the old Civil Police Force. Paragraph 22 of the Proceedings.

This is a matter primarily for the Chief Commissioner to consider. He asked our sanction to the recruitment of the old Civil Police Force and it was approved by us.

ASB
11/8/47

11-8-47

11/8/47

US(Ard)

Labour Deptt

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Extract from notes on Ministry of Finance (Revenue Division) file No.24(7)-E.O./47.

The question of prohibition in Centrally-administered areas was discussed during the course of the last Assembly and Council of State sessions through two questions by Messrs. B.N. Biyani and Seth Govind Das and the Hon'ble the Finance Minister replied in the Assembly that the Government will consider the question at the "appropriate time". As to what "appropriate time" meant, the Principal Secretary had replied earlier on 24-2-47 in the Council of State as "the time when Government are sufficiently relieved from their pre-occupations to give this matter their consideration". Since then, the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, addressed us in June 1947, enclosing a copy of a resolution passed by the Rajputana Rawat Rajput Mahasabha which demanded "the immediate enactment of prohibition laws in Ajmer-Merwara.....". The Chief Commissioner added that "it would be difficult to resist a demand for gradual prohibition in Ajmer-Merwara" and asked for orders whether the Administration should take any active steps in the matter. With the concurrence of the Home Department, we replied that the Government of India would prefer to postpone for the present the consideration of th issue.

2. In the light of this, if the Ministry of Home Affairs considers that prohibition in Andamans should be introduced now or gradually, they may first obtain the views of the Chief Commissioner in the matter.

Itls.
21-9-47.

In view of the opinion expressed by the local Association, the views of the Commissioner may be called for on the administrative aspect of prohibition in the

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

4)

Andamans. If the Commissioner anticipates no serious difficulties, the policy may be given effect to then, whatever may be the appropriate time in 'India' proper.

Sd. A.

29-9-47.

Ministry of Home Affairs.
Ministry of Finance (RD) u/o No.24(7)-EO/47, dt.29-9-47.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Call for C.C's remarks.

Sd. H.J.Stooks,
30-9-47.

Draft submitted.

DFA

ASO
1.10.47.

DS(A-I)

Serial No (4) - Issue P.S/cor

Ministry of Finance.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava has given notice of a question in the Constituent Assembly of India(Legislative) asking whether Government have taken any decision to introduce prohibition in the central administered provinces of Delhi and Ajmer -Merwara. The question will if admitted be put down for the meeting on 16-3-48. As the case connected with the introduction of prohibition in Andamans may be helpful in answering any possible supplementary question, we may request the Ministry of Home Affairs, to let us know the progress made in this behalf. If they have no objection their file on the subject may kindly be shown to us.

Sd. A.... 23-2-48.

Ministry of Home Affairs U.O.R.
Ministry of Finance(R.D)u/oNo.24(7)-E.O/47 dated 24/25-2-48.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Ministry of Home Affairs(AN).

Copies of the Schemes of prohibition that are being brought into force in the Provinces of Bombay and Central Provinces, have been supplied to the Chief Commissioner. Further progress can be made only after C.C's views on the Administrative, Financial and Legislative aspect of the prohibition of the intoxicants, in the Andamans, ~~which are awaited~~, are received. The Ministry of Finance may see our File No. 306/47-AN as desired by them.

1.3.48

Ministry of Finance.
Ministry of Home Affairs u/o No. 822/48-AN dated the 2nd Mar. 48.

A new file on 'Prohibition' has been opened. This may therefore be recorded.

3-B/48-AN.

9/10/48

9.10.48

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(7)

Correspondence

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

No. GEN/UK/50/84.
Civil Passage Controller.
Government of India,
Home Department,
New Delhi, dated the 25th Nov'46.

MEMORANDUM.

To: Chief Secretaries of all Provincial Governments.
All Chief Commissioners.

Reference Home Department letter No.Gen/UK/50/84 dated the 26th October, 1946.

From 1st December onwards, the Civil Passage Controller/ Deputy Secretary (Passage Priority) will only issue priorities A or B for Government sponsored passengers.

A new form of application for a Government sponsored passage will be taken into use (Copy of revised Form A attached).

Bids for shipping space have to be made at least one month in advance, e.g. the firm bid for June is submitted on the 1st May. It will, therefore, assist the Passage Priority Section if applications for passage can be made not less than five weeks before the 1st of the month in which the passenger wishes to sail. Urgent applications will of course be dealt with as far as possible.

It is emphasised that the Deputy Secretary (Passage Priority) will only be able to advise on questions within his terms of reference vide Para.6 of the above quoted letter. Information regarding name of ship, date of sailing, baggage, passage ticket, berthing &c. must be referred to the passenger's Travel Agent.

Will you please note that recommendations for Govt.Priority can only be accepted if signed by an officer not below the status of Joint Secretary of a Central Govt.Department or Secretary of a Provincial Government.

Civil Passage Controller.

Copy to:-

All Departments of the Central Government.
D.S. (S)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

From,

The Secretary Local Born Association,

Port Blair.

To,

The Chief Commissioner,

Andaman & Nicobar Islands,

Port Blair.

Sir,

I am directed to request a reference to " The Proceedings of Interview " a copy of which was forwarded to you under the Government of India, Home Department letter No.9/47 A.N. of 12th. February 1947 and to submit the following for favour of your further consideration and orders. I would also like to bring to notice that these questions were discussed with you by the representatives of this Association.

1). Compulsory primary education and opening of seperate girls school- Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Proceedings.

(a) Compulsory Education.

Education is the basic industry of the country. The importance of education is not different from that of other industries Education is really a part of the scheme of industrialisation which most enlightened people have in their minds just now. Industries depend on the quality of the men that we give them and the quality of men depends on the education that we give them either in the family or in school or college. If, therefore, the smelting of steel is the basis of other industries, in the same manner & even in a truer sense, education is the basis of the fabric that we all wish to build up in this country in the near future.

Therefore the Committee feel that the time of introduction of Dr. Seargent's scheme of education cannot yet be foreseen and in the meantime they consider that the primary education here should be made compulsory so that mass education of the children should not suffer.

(b) Women's Education.

The first mistake to be avoided in the reorganisation of women's education is the theory that any kind of education is good enough for them provided it is education. It is indeed

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

indeed tempting,in a poor country where men have been favoured for over a century out of all proportion to their relative number, to think that it is enough to throw boy's schools and colleges open to girls for the balance to be promptly restored. Superficially this method has all the charm of economy,for it promises to double the number of pupils while the cost remains constant. In reality it is not so.A careful consideration of Indian problem will prove that except in a few large cities in India the girls who frequent boy's schools and colleges are comparatively few,and that to be fair to them the institutions that receive them have to make special arrangements for their teaching and accomodation which do not always make co-education the financial success it is intended to be.

But even where the idea of money is absent,there generally is the theory-blatantly insulting to women-that any kind of education is good enough for them. In a boy's school a few front seats are set apart for them, and they are made to listen to male teachers, male lectures,male examples,stories,illustrations,comparisons; between classes and at play or recreation time they have to slink into corners and passages, feeling awkward and making others feel awkward. The male teachers has to remember every moment that there are ladies among his audience,but he cannot teach them or speak to them.

There never was any doubt that girls are equal to boys.What is forgotten is that they are different.And the test is,not the " results" of written test of cramming (which girls can do even better than boys), but the development of their faculties of body and soul for their distinctive function in society. It has been an accepted principle that the girls who have been educated (I do not speak of mere post-graduate instruction) in boy's school are less fully developed than those who have been allowed to exercise and develop their potentialities in an environment specially suited to them. It must therefore be admitted that the method of educating girls ought to be wholly different at almost every stage of life. It must also be admitted that the woman's body has been differently made from the man's and for a different function,her mind and heart is also differently constituted-affected differently by the same stimuli,they react differently

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

differently too, and therefore have to be differently exercised, i.e. educated.

The Committee feel that it is very necessary that seperate girl's school should be provided. We hope that these proposals will meet with your approval and you will take up the matter with the Government of India soon. I may also state for your information that these questions were discussed by the representatives of this Association with Dr. Sir John Seargent, the Education Secretary to the Government of India, who promissed a sympathetic consideration if approached.

M/P.2

2). Complete prohibition of liquor, toddy, wine etc- Paragraph 6 of the Proceeding.

We all know that this is an evil so far the Indian population are concerned. It is therefore necessary that an evil should be get rid of as quickly as possible and as the social pressure has not had the desired effect it appears more necessary to bring law to enforce prohibition. It is therefore submitted that prohibition may be introduced as soon as possible.

M/P.3.

3). Grant of compensation for loss of property and forcible exchange of currency- Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Proceedings.-

The committee feel that this small community has sustained considerable losses and some action should be taken to have those losses made good. We were told time after time that the case of Channel Islands was very similar to Andamans and if any grant is made to Channel Islands the same will be extended to Andamans. We understand that certain grants have been made to people of Channel Islands but we do not yet know what has been the final decision of the scheme which the Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept told the representatives of this Association, was under consideration. I request that a copy of any scheme which you may have received be sent to this Association for further consideration.

M/P.4

4). Payment of a years pay to Local Born Coolies, Chaudhries and Chaukidars.- Paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Proceedings.-

A copy of the original resolution is reproduced below for the information of the Chief Commissioner.

" Payment of a year's pay to Local Born coolies (exgratia payment) as has been granted to coolies from Ranchi and convicts.

Ranchi coolies and convicts working in the Forest, Public Works

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(12)

Marine and other Departments have been given a year's pay each as exgratia payment but the local born coolies/ who were working in chaudhries and chaukidars. the same Departments with the same vigour and have suffered much at the hands of the cruel enemy have been denied this concession. The reasons for this discriminatory treatment are not known to this Association. The Association considers that Local Born coolies have done nothing to incur the ill will of the Government and the Committee recommends most strongly on the basis of equal treatment- that they may also be granted a year's pay as exgratia payment as a measure of rehabilitation".

It will be seen that the Government of India was in sympathy with the proposal but desired that the matter must originate from the Chief Commissioner. I therefore request you to very kindly give your sympathetic consideration to this case and recommend to the Government of India for the grant of the concession to Local Born coolies,chaudhries and chaukidars in the same way as has been granted to others.

5). Increase in War Injuries Pension-Paragraph 14 of the Proceedings

x M/P.4

I may refer you to the resolution(g) passed at a meeting held on 7th. November 1946 and a copy of which was forwarded to you with my letter of 4th. December 1946 and which for the easy reference is reproduced below.

" (g) Increase in the rate of War Injuries pension.

The Committee after very careful consideration has come to the conclusion that the pensionary award of Rs.8/- per adult and Rs.3/- per child under the War Injury Ordnance is absolutely inadequate to provide even food to the receipient.The monthly cost of basic articles of ration per ration card works out to Rs.14/-per adult.While the Committee feels extremely grateful for this measure of relief it considers that while this award might be considered sufficient for the purchase of basic articles of food in certain well favoured,agricultural districts in India, it is really not so in the Andamans and if the award is to meet the object for which it has been made it should be so increased as to cover at least the cost of rationed articles of food for adults and children. The Committee therefore is of the opinion that this award, in the case of those who reside in Andamans,may be increased to Rs.20/- in respect of each adult and Rs.5/- in respect of each child. The

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

The Committee trusts that the Government of India will be pleased to sanction the increase proposed if the inadequacy of the award under the prevalent conditions in Andamans is clearly represented to them."

(13)

I request that the matter may be given your sympathetic consideration and a reference be made to the Government of India for the increase in the award as suggested in the Resolution.

6). Recruitment of the Members of the old Civil Police Force - Paragraph 22 of the Proceedings.

M/P.5

I would draw your attention to the Resolution (d) passed in the meeting held on 7th.November 1946, a copy of which was forwarded to you with my letter of 4th. December 1946. The Govt. of India made the representatives of this Association to understand that the re-employment of some of the old Civil Police men was sanctioned upon a belief from the Chief Commissioner that local feeling against these men had to some extent subsided. I may point out that this was a misrepresentation of fact and I request that a Committee consisting of the Deputy Commissioner,a representative from Police Department and 2 representatives of this Association be formed to go into the question of feeling and report facts to you.

We shall be extremely obliged for an early reply.

I remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Secreta-ry,

Local Born Association,

Dated the 28 June 1947. Port Blair.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department with reference to Home Department No. 9/47 A.N. dated the 12th. February 1947.

Sno. 4.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Sno. 2

(14) o/c

No.2764-D/47-AN.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
Home Department (India).

New Delhi-3, the 22nd August, 1947.

A copy of the undermentioned papers is forwarded to the Education Department for information in continuation of the Home Department O.M.No.9/47-AN, dated the 6th March, 1947.

sd/-
(R.N.Phillps)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To
The Education Department.

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1. Extract item 1 of the letter from the Secretary, Local Born Association Port Blair, dated the 28th June 1947.

SSR/12.8.47.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Sno. 3

(15)

No.2764-D/47-AN
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Home Department (India).

New Delhi-3, the 22nd August, 1947.

The undersigned is directed to forward a copy of the marginally noted papers for the information of the C.B.R. The Home Department will be glad to have their views in the matter.

1. Extract paragraph 6 of the prog. of an interview accorded by the Secy., Home Deptt. to the representatives of the Local Born Assocn. Andamans on the 6th Feb.,'47.
2. Extract item 2 of the letter from the Secy. Local Born Association Port Blair, dated the 28th June 1947.

Sd/-
(R.N.Phillps)
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

SSR/12.8.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.
(Andamans)
~~DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.~~

(4) (8)

File No.
Serial No. (4)

Draft Letter ~~Memorandum~~ ~~XXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXm~~ (16)

No. /47-AN. Dated 4.10.47

1. Date of despatch.
2. List of enclosures. 6218

To

The Chief Commissioner,
Andaman & Nicobar Islands,
Port Blair.

Subject:-Liquor, toddy, wine etc. - Prohibition of-.

Sir,

I am directed to forward for your information an extract from a letter dated the 28th June 1947 from the Secretary, Local Born Association, Port Blair, addressed to you, a copy of which was forwarded to this Ministry. The Government of India will be glad to have your views on the administrative aspect of the prohibition of liquor, toddy, wine etc. in the Islands in view of the opinion expressed by

ISSUED On 4/10 Initial

Item 2 on page 3 Correspondence.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(17)

Association.

I have, etc.,

D.S.(AN)

S-5 (Small)

MFP—326 S&P—6767-A—(M-609)—26-7-46—200,000 Pads.

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(18)

Appendix

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(12)

No. GEN/UK/50/84.
Civil Passage Controller.
Government of India,
Home Department,
New Delhi, dated the 25th Nov'46.

MEMORANDUM.

To: Chief Secretaries of all Provincial Governments.
All Chief Commissioners.

Reference Home Department letter No.Gen/UK/50/84 dated the 26th October, 1946.

From 1st December onwards, the Civil Passage Controller/ Deputy Secretary(Passage Priority) will only issue priorities A or B for Government sponsored passengers.

A new form of application for a Government sponsored passage will be taken into use (Copy of revised Form A attached).

Bids for shipping space have to be made at least one month in advance, e.g. the firm bid for June is submitted on the 1st May. It will, therefore, assist the Passage Priority Section if applications for passage can be made not less than five weeks before the 1st of the month in which the passenger wishes to sail. Urgent applications will of course be dealt with as far as possible.

It is emphasised that the Deputy Secretary (Passage Priority) will only be able to advise on questions within his terms of reference vide Para.6 of the above quoted letter. Information regarding name of ship, date of sailing, baggage, passage ticket, berthing &c. must be referred to the passenger's Travel Agent.

Will you please note that recommendations for Govt.Priority can only be accepted if signed by an officer not below the status of Joint Secretary of a Central Govt.Department or Secretary of a Provincial Government.

Civil Passage Controller.

Copy to:-

All Departments of the Central Government.
D.S. (E

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE HONOURABLE HOME MEMBER.

1. Admission of a representative from Andamans to the Constitutent Assembly.
2. Colonisation Scheme - Government policy to be declared.
3. Future of Andamans - Government scheme to be declared.
4. Primary education should be made compulsory.
5. Separate Girls' School to be opened.
6. Complete prohibition of liquor, toddy, wine etc.
7. Rural uplift - (1) Reconstruction of villages.
   (2) Provision of metal road in villages.
8. Grant of compensation to public for loss of household property, Coconut plantations, garden, plough and milch cattle house etc. by the Japanese.
9. Grant of compensation for forcible exchange of British currency by the Japanese.
10. Recognition of good services of Gen. A.D.Lognathan and his staff.
11. Timber trade - Formation of Local Born Syndicate- lease of an area for extraction of timber and scale of Forest Deptt. out-turn to Syndicate instead of to other companies in India.
12. Payment of a year's pay to local born coolies.
13. Chaudhries and Chaukidars - Payment of back pay - grant of pay which they were drawing in 1942 and grant of dearness allowance.
14. War Injuries Pension - increase in the amount of pension.
15. Grant of officiating pay to Local Born Officials who were appointed to officiate on higher appointments at the time of evacuation as has been granted to Messers. MacMellen, Arndt and Docherty.
16. Grant of scholarship to local born youths for training in all branches of services.
17. Appointment of Local Borne as (1) Revenue Asst.Commissioner.
    (2) Commdt. Dev. Force.
    and in other superior appointments.
18. Affiliation of Local High School with Central Administration areas.
19. Control of professional fee charged by Medical Officer. Duties of the Senior Medical Officer.
20. Agricultural Department.
21. Supply Department.
22. Recruitment of Members of the old Civil Police Force.
23. Appointment of Local Borns in Police Force - direct appointment as Sub-Inspector.

JAIN.

4.5.16.18

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Proceedings of an interview accorded by Secretary, Home Department to Messrs. Durga Prashad and Ratnam representing the local Born Association, Andamans, at 11 A.M. on the 6th February, 1947, in the Secretary's room.

Introductory remarks by Secretary:- Secretary observed that it was rather unfortunate that the representatives had left the Andaman Islands before making sure, that the Honourable Member had agreed to grant them an interview. But since they had come to Delhi at their own expense Secretary had no objection to give them a hearing, though on most of the points mentioned in their representation, Government would necessarily await recommendations by the Chief Commissioner.

The representatives then gave Secretary a typed copy of 23 points which they wanted to discuss with him and these were taken one by one and dealt with in the following manner.

1. Admission of a representative from Andamans to the Constituent Assembly and the constitutional future of Andamans.

The deputationists pointed out that Andaman and Nicobar Islands was the only one out of the five Chief Commissioners' provinces, which had no representative in the Constituent Assembly. Secretary said, that representation to the Constituent Assembly was on the basis of population and it was obviously impossible for Andaman Islands with only a few thousands to have a representative on it. As to the future of the Islands in the new constitution, he said, it was not possible to give any indication as to what the Constituent Assembly might decide. He thought, however, that there could be no objection to the submission of a memorial embodying their views which could be sent to the Secretary of the Constituent Assembly through the Chief Commissioner, if desired.

2. .....

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(22) (3)

2. Colonisation Scheme - Government policy to be declared.

The representatives wanted to know whether Government had any scheme to colonise the Islands with Anglo-Indians.

Secretary pointed that Government of India have sanctioned a scheme to settle 100 families of suitable Indian ex-servicemen on the Islands and that there was no other proposal so far, to colonise the Islands e.g. with Anglo Indians. The Chief Commissioner's present policy was to examine each application on the merits considering whether the immigrant would make a good citizen of the Islands.

3. Development of the Islands.

The deputationists wanted to have some details about the policy of Government for the future development of the Islands. Secretary said, that Government was endeavouring to get a coordinated scheme of development. He explained that Departments of Government had been requested to conduct detailed surveys, the reports on which would be considered in the formulation of an integrated master plan for the development of the Islands.

[4 & 5. Compulsory primary education and opening separate girls' school.

✓

Education Deptt

It was pointed out that Home Department is not responsible for education and that it is the concern of the Education Department. The representatives were advised to meet the Chief Commissioner with their proposals and to request him to forward them to the Education Department.]

[6. Complete prohibition of liquor, toddy, wine, etc.

✓

Secretary informed them that this is also a matter which they should discuss with the Chief Commissioner.]

7. Rural uplift - Reconstruction of villages - Provision of metal road in villages.

Secretary said this could be expected to form a

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(23)

part of the over-all development scheme when it came to be formulated.

8 & 9. Grant of compensation for loss of property and forcible exchange of currency.

The deputationists pressed for adequate compensation for loss of property and the loss sustained by forcible exchange of British currency for Japanese military notes. A bundle of the latter was laid on the table as an exhibit. Secretary explained that the policy of not recognising Japanese occupation currency, has been adopted for all countries over-run by the enemy and it is not possible to change or make an exception of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. As regards compensation he pointed out that Government of India had already granted repayable advances and interest-free loans to help the islanders in their rehabilitation. Secretary also mentioned that there is under consideration a scheme to compensate private individuals for loss of property, on lines similar to what is done in the Channel Islands. But he added it would be premature to discuss that at the moment, because no decisions have yet been reached. It was also made clear that there could be no expectation of recovering anything like what had been lost since Government's assistance would naturally be limited here as elsewhere, to enabling the islanders to re-establish the essential economy of the Islands.

10. Recognition of good services of Gen. A.D.Loganathan and his staff.

Not discussed.

11. Timber trade -- Formation of Local Born Syndicate.

The deputationists requested that they should be allowed to exploit forest wealth on a small scale in South Andaman Island. Secretary suggested that they should put up concrete proposals through the Chief/Commissioner to the Forest Officer and Chief

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(24) (5)

Agriculture Department. If it was their intention to take over extensive trading operations from firms like the Himatsingka Agency and others, however, he pointed out the dangers of substantial loss involved owing to inexperience or lack of proper contacts.

12 & 13. Payment of a year's pay to local born coolies - Choudries and Chowkidars - Payment of back pay and dearness allowance.

The deputationists requested that concessions granted to Ranchi coolies and convicts in this respect should also be extended to the local-born coolies, Choudries and chowkidars. Secretary was in sympathy with the proposal, but observed that it must originate from the Chief Commissioner, who should be approached in the matter.

14. Increase in war injuries pension.

The representatives pointed out that the allowances awarded under the war injuries pension scheme were quite inadequate to meet the higher cost of living and requested that the allowances be increased from Rs-8 to Rs.20 in respect of each adult and from Rs.2 to Rs.5 in respect of each child. Secretary pointed out that this is the concern of the Labour Department to which the deputationists were advised to send a representation through Chief Commissioner.

Labour Deptt

15. Grant of officiating pay to local borns who were appointed to officiate in higher appointments at the time of evacuation.

As this was a new point, not mentioned in the original memorial, Secretary promised to look into the matter.

16. Grant of scholarship to local-born youths for training in all branches of services.

This should be taken up with the Education Department.

17. Appointment of local borns as Revenue Assistant Commissioner and Commandant Development Force.

Not discussed.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

18. Affiliation of local high school with Centrally Administered Areas.

It should be taken up with the Department of Education.

19. Control of professional fee charged by medical officers - Duties of the Senior Medical Officer.

Secretary said that these are governed by regulations and since contravention of the existing regulations seemed to be alleged, the matter should be represented to the Chief Commissioner.

20 & 21. Agriculture Department - Supply Department.

Not discussed.

22. Recruitment of the members of the Old Civil Police Force.

Representatives voiced the very strong feelings of the local borns against the members of the old Civil Police Force and requested, that in their own interest, they should not be employed at all in the Islands. Secretary while sympathising with their feelings pointed out the difficulties in replacing those men, as suitable persons with experience in police investigation were not readily available for service in the Islands though efforts to obtain them had been made in several quarters Secretary also suggested that a representation should be made to the Chief Commissioner, whose recent recommendation to continue some of the old civil police proceeded among other considerations, upon a belief, that local feeling against them had to some extent subsided.

23. Appointment of local borns in Police Force - Direct appointment of Sub-Inspector.

Here again Secretary pointed out that they should take up this question with the Chief Commissioner who should be requested to submit proposals in the matter.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(26)

(7)

II- In the end Secretary suggested that it would be useful if the representatives saw the Secretary of the Education Department with regard to items 4,5, 16 and 18 and Secretary, Agriculture Department, with regard to items 11 and 20 and gave them letters of introduction to the Secretaries concerned.

Sd/- R.N.Philips.
Attache, 7-2-1947.

Secy.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA